REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication: pthc (227).jpg

Other Known Title: Not Stated

Medium: Computer Image File

Director/Author: Not Applicable

Producer/Publisher: Not Stated

Country of Origin: Not Stated

Language: English

Applicant: The District Court at Christchurch

Distributor: Not Applicable

Classification: Objectionable.

Descriptive Note: Not Applicable

Display Conditions: Not Applicable

Date of entry in Register: 24 April 2008

Date of direction to issue a label: Not Applicable

OFLC No: 800385

Excisions: Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The computer image file *pthc* (227).jpg is classified as: Objectionable.

The publication is objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.

The image depicts two young girls in a sexual pose that has been deliberately constructed for the camera and is intended for the sexual titillation and arousal of adult viewers. The image encourages viewers to see children as sexually desirable and available for adult sexual gratification. The effect is to validate a sexual interest in children and encourage their sexual exploitation.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's clear intention in s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993. The classification is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to prevent the availability of publications that promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.